

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace the original drawing sheets 1 and 2 with the enclosed sheets 1 and 2, labeled "Replacement Sheet 1" and "Replacement Sheet 2," respectively. These replacement sheets do not contain any new matter. In Replacement Sheet 1, the new sheet replaces the reference number 214 with the reference number 316 to make Fig. 5 consistent with the written description, and Replacement Sheet 2 includes a legend designating Figs. 2 and 3 as prior art.

REMARKS

The Applicant is filing this Amendment and Response in response to an Official Action dated March 6, 2006. At the time of the Official Action, claims 1, 4-6, 8-10, and 12-15 were rejected, and claims 2, 5, 7, and 11 were objected to for relying on a rejected parent claim. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 2, 5, 7, and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Also in the most recent Office Action, Fig. 5 was objected to because the element labeled with reference number 214 should be labeled with the reference number 316, and Figs. 2 and 3 were objected to because they are not labeled as prior art. Finally, a restriction requirement was issued for three claim groups consisting of claims 1-15, 16-17, and 18-20, respectively.

With respect to the restriction requirement, as noted in the Office Action, attorney Michael Fletcher elected to prosecute claim group 1, consisting of claims 1-15, during a telephone conversation on February 23, 2006. By this Response and Amendment, the Applicant affirms this election and cancels claims 16-20.

With respect to the objections to the drawings, Applicant respectfully asserts that Replacement Sheets 1 and 2 enclosed with this Response and Amendment render the Examiner's objections moot. As noted above, Replacement Sheet 1 changes the reference number for the long bitline to 316, and Replacement Sheet 2 includes a legend labeling Figs. 2 and 3 as prior art. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw this objection.

Finally, Applicant respectfully asserts that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. By this response, each of the pending independent claims is amended to recite the subject matter of a claim that the Examiner indicated is allowable. Specifically, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited by claim 2, independent claim 4 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited by claim 5, independent claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited by claim 7, and independent claim 10 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter previously recited by claim 11. Additionally, incorporated claims 2, 5, 7, and 11 are canceled, and claims 16-20 are canceled in accordance with the above-noted restriction requirement. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully stresses that pending claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-10, and 12-15 are in condition for allowance.

General Authorization for Extensions of Time

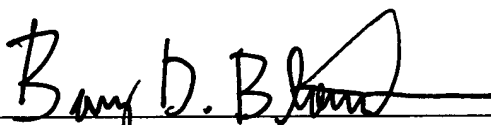
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, Applicant hereby provides a general authorization to treat this and any future reply requiring an extension of time as incorporating a request therefor. Furthermore, Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge the appropriate fee of **\$120.00** for the **one-month** extension of time, and any additional fees which may be required, to the credit card listed on the attached PTO-2038. However, if the PTO-2038 is missing, if the amount listed thereon is insufficient, or if the amount is unable to be charged to the credit card for any other reason, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1315; Order No. MICS:0115/FLE/03-0027.

Conclusion

In view of the Amendments and Remarks set forth above, the Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all of the Examiner's rejections and objections. Furthermore, the Applicant asserts that an indication of the allowability of claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-10, and 12-15 is appropriate. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 6, 2006



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